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Amendments to the Claims

Please amend the claims without prejudice as follows and consider the subsequent remarks/arguments. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

Claims 1-16 (Cancelled)

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Previously presented) A method as recited in claim 38 further comprising the e-commerce supply chain environment manager performing load balancing services that initiate and stop processes as utilization levels vary in the e-commerce supply chain.

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Cancelled)

22. (Previously presented) A computer system as recited in claim 44 further comprising logic executable on a computer system for performing load balancing services that initiate and stop processes as utilization levels vary in the e-commerce supply chain.

23. (Cancelled)

24. (Cancelled)

25. (Cancelled)

26. (Cancelled)

27. (Cancelled)

28. (Previously presented) A computer program embodied on a computer readable medium as recited in claim 50 further comprising a code segment for performing load balancing services that initiate and stop processes as utilization levels vary in the e-

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commerce supply chain.

29. (Cancelled)

30. (Cancelled)

31. (Cancelled)

32. (Previously presented) A method as recited in claim 38 wherein the step of performing scheduled maintenance and service includes indexing received feedback from environment users.

33. (Currently amended) A method as recited in claim 40 wherein the data stored in the e-commerce supply-chain environment is indexed according to a profile for each framework user's profile.

34. (Currently amended) A ~~computer~~ system as recited in claim 44 wherein the maintenance and service module ~~logic executable on a computer system for performing scheduled maintenance and service~~ further ~~comprises logic executable on a computer system for indexing~~ indexes received feedback from environment users.

35. (Currently amended) A ~~computer~~ system as recited in claim 46 further comprising an index module for indexing ~~logic executable on a computer system for indexing~~ data stored in the e-commerce supply-chain environment according to each environment user's profile.

36. (Currently amended) A computer program embodied on a computer readable medium ~~and executable on a computer system~~ as recited in claim 50 wherein the code segment facilitating performance of scheduled maintenance and service further comprises a code segment for indexing received feedback from environment users.

37. (Currently amended) A computer program embodied on a computer readable medium ~~and executable on a computer~~ as recited in claim 52 further comprising a code segment for indexing data stored in the e-commerce supply-chain environment according to each environment user's profile.

38. (Currently amended) A method for an e-commerce supply chain environment manager to provide maintenance and service for a network-based e-commerce supply chain environment between at least a first environment user and a second environment user,

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comprising:

- (a) receiving from a plurality of provider environment users a plurality of notices for recommended maintenance and service;
- (b) receiving from a plurality of consumer environment users a plurality of requests for maintenance and service;
- (c) scheduling maintenance and service using the plurality of notices and plurality of requests;
- (d) transmitting a schedule for service to the plurality of users who requested or recommended maintenance; and
- (e) performing scheduled maintenance and service of the e-commerce supply chain environment.

39. (Previously presented) A method as recited in claim 38 wherein the step of performing scheduled maintenance and service of the e-commerce supply chain environment comprises updating data items stored in the e-commerce supply chain environment selected from the group consisting of merchandising content, currency exchange rates, tax rates, and pricing information.

40. (Previously presented) A method as recited in claim 38 wherein the step of performing scheduled maintenance and service of the e-commerce supply chain environment comprises synchronizing data stored separately from the e-commerce supply chain environment with data stored in the e-commerce supply chain environment.

41. (Previously presented) A method as recited in claim 38 wherein the step of performing scheduled maintenance and service of the e-commerce supply chain environment comprises optimizing at least on operation of the e-commerce supply chain environment selected from the group consisting of server processes, disk space, memory availability, CPU utilization, access time to a server, and connection load.

42. (Previously presented) A method as recited in claim 38 wherein the step of performing scheduled maintenance and service of the e-commerce supply chain environment comprises sending feedback response requests to the plurality of environment users of the e-commerce supply chain environment.

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43. (Previously presented) A method as recited in claim 40 further comprising the e-commerce supply chain environment manager searching the data stored in the e-commerce supply chain environment prior to synchronization.

44. (Currently amended) A ~~computer~~ system for an e-commerce supply chain environment manager to provide maintenance and service for a network-based e-commerce supply chain environment between at least a first environment user and a second environment user, comprising:

- (a) ~~a receiving module for coordinating logic executable on a computer system providing coordination of receipt from a plurality of provider environment users a plurality of notices for recommended maintenance and service;~~
- (b) ~~a receiving module for coordinating logic executable on a computer system providing coordination of receipt from a plurality of consumer environment users a plurality of requests for maintenance and service;~~
- (c) ~~a scheduling module for logic executable on a computer system providing scheduling of maintenance and service using the plurality of notices and plurality of requests;~~
- (d) ~~a transmitting module for transmitting logic executable on a computer system providing transmittal of a schedule for service to the plurality of users who requested or recommended maintenance; and~~
- (e) ~~a maintenance and service module for performing logic executable on a computer system providing performance of scheduled maintenance and service of the e-commerce supply chain environment.~~

45. (Currently amended) A ~~computer~~ system as recited in claim 44 wherein the maintenance and service module ~~the logic executable on a computer system for performing scheduled maintenance and service of the e-commerce supply chain environment further comprises logic executable on a computer system for updating~~ updates data items stored in the e-commerce supply chain environment selected from the group consisting of merchandising content, currency exchange rates, tax rates, and pricing information.

46. (Currently amended) A ~~computer~~ system as recited in claim 44 wherein the maintenance and service module ~~the logic executable on a computer system for performing~~

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~~scheduled maintenance and service of the e-commerce supply chain environment further comprises logic executable on a computer system for synchronizing~~ data stored separately from the e-commerce supply chain environment with data stored in the e-commerce supply chain environment.

47. (Currently amended) A computer system as recited in claim 44 wherein the maintenance and service module ~~the logic executable on a computer system for performing scheduled maintenance and service of the e-commerce supply chain environment further comprises logic executable on a computer system for~~ optimizing at least one ~~on~~ operation of the e-commerce supply chain environment selected from ~~form~~ the group consisting of server processes, disk space, memory availability, CPU utilization, access time to a server, and connection load.

48. (Currently amended) A computer system as recited in claim 44 wherein the maintenance and service module ~~the logic executable on a computer system for performing scheduled maintenance and service of the e-commerce supply chain environment further comprises logic executable on a computer system for sending~~ sends feedback response requests to the plurality of environment users of the e-commerce supply chain environment.

49. (Currently amended) A computer system as recited in claim 46 further comprising the maintenance and service module ~~logic executable on a computer system for~~ searching the data stored in the e-commerce supply chain environment prior to synchronization.

50. (Currently amended) A computer program embodied on a computer readable medium ~~and executable on a computer~~ for an e-commerce supply chain environment manager to provide maintenance and service for a network-based e-commerce supply chain environment between at least a first environment user and a second environment user, comprising:

- (a) a code segment for providing coordination of receipt from a plurality of provider environment users a plurality of notices for recommended maintenance and service;
- (b) a code segment for providing coordination of receipt from a plurality of consumer environment users a plurality of requests for maintenance and service;

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- (c) a code segment for providing scheduling of maintenance and service using the plurality of notices and plurality of requests;
- (d) a code segment for providing transmittal of a schedule for service to the plurality of users who requested or recommended maintenance; and
- (e) a code segment for providing performance of scheduled maintenance and service of the e-commerce supply chain environment.

51. (Currently amended) A computer program embodied on a computer readable medium ~~and executable on a computer~~ as recited in claim 50 wherein the code segment for performing scheduled maintenance and service of the e-commerce supply chain environment further comprises a code segment for updating data items stored in the e-commerce supply chain environment selected from the group consisting of merchandising content, currency exchange rates, tax rates, and pricing information.

52. (Currently amended) A computer program embodied on a computer readable medium ~~and executable on a computer~~ as recited in claim 50 wherein the code segment for performing scheduled maintenance and service of the e-commerce supply chain environment further comprises a code segment for synchronizing data stored separately from the e-commerce supply chain environment with data stored in the e-commerce supply chain environment.

53. (Currently amended) A computer program embodied on a computer readable medium ~~and executable on a computer~~ as recited in claim 50 wherein the code segment for performing scheduled maintenance and service of the e-commerce supply chain environment further comprises a code segment for optimizing at least on operation of the e-commerce supply chain environment selected from the group consisting of server processes, disk space, memory availability, CPU utilization, access time to a server, and connection load.

54. (Currently amended) A computer program embodied on a computer readable medium ~~and executable on a computer~~ as recited in claim 50 wherein the code segment for performing scheduled maintenance and service of the e-commerce supply chain environment further comprises a code segment for sending feedback response requests to the plurality of environment users of the e-commerce supply chain environment.

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55. (Currently amended) A computer program embodied on a computer readable medium ~~and executable on a computer~~ as recited in claim 52 further comprising a code segment to facilitate the e-commerce supply chain environment manager search of the data stored in the e-commerce supply chain environment prior to synchronization.